MARVEL
4
CULLEN BUNN • MARK BAGLEY • JOHN DELL • EDGAR DELGADO
DEADPOOL
Assassin

SELECTED FOR A TOP-SECRET GOVERNMENT PROGRAM THAT GAVE HIM A HYPERACTIVE HEALING FACTOR, WADE WILSON USES THAT TALENT TO BE THE WORLD'S MOST SKILLED MERCENARY--AND CERTAINLY ITS MOST ANNOYING. LOVED AND LOATHED AS THE MERC WITH THE MOUTH, WADE WILSON MAKES HIS MONEY AS A GUN FOR HIRE. FOR ALL YOUR HOMICIDAL NEEDS, NO QUESTIONS ASKED BUT PLENTY OF TASTELESS QUIPS AND MAXIMUM POSSIBLE TRAUMA, CALL...

DEADPOOL *Assassin*

WADE WILSON, A.K.A. DEADPOOL, IS DETERMINED TO LEAVE CONTRACT KILLING BEHIND, BUT RETIREMENT IS EXPENSIVE AND MERC-ING PAYS THE BILLS. AS A COMPROMISE, WADE HAS RESOLVED TO ONLY TAKE ON LEGITIMATE JOBS PROTECTING THE INNOCENT, SOMETHING THAT HAS FRUSTRATED HIS HANDLER, WEASEL, TO NO END.

MEANWHILE, DEADPOOL'S CAUSTIC ANTICS HAVE DRAWN THE IRE OF BELLADONNA BOUDREAUX AND HER ASSASSINS GUILD AFTER DEADPOOL SLAUGHTERED SEVERAL OF THEIR TOP MEMBERS AND TOOK ONE OF THE GUILD'S PROMISING RECRUITS, THRENODY, UNDER HIS WING...

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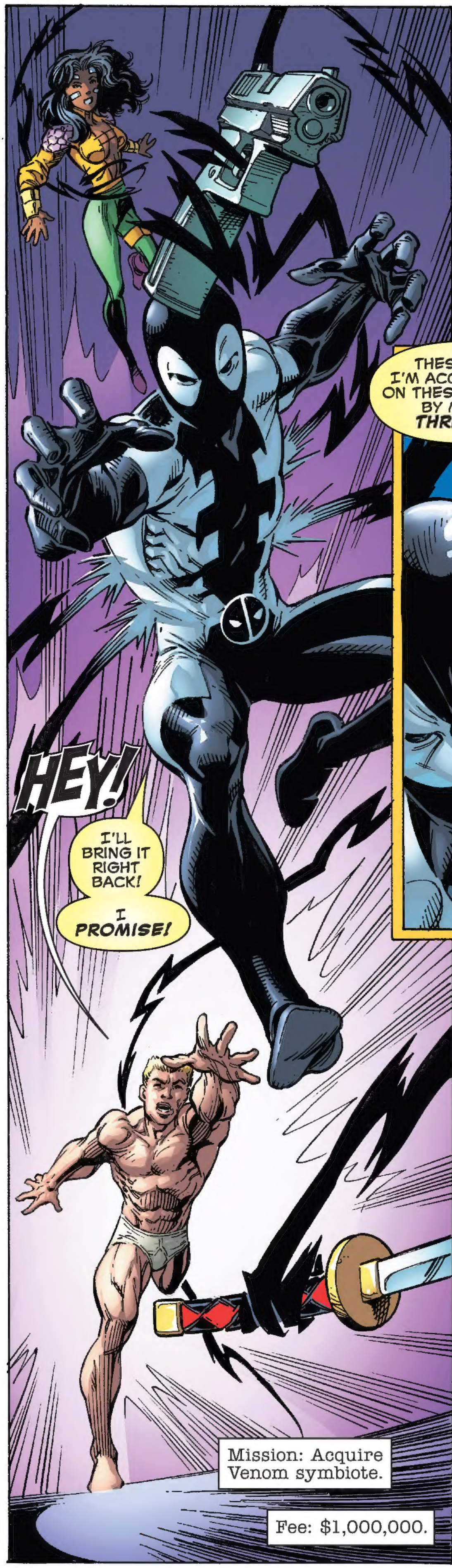
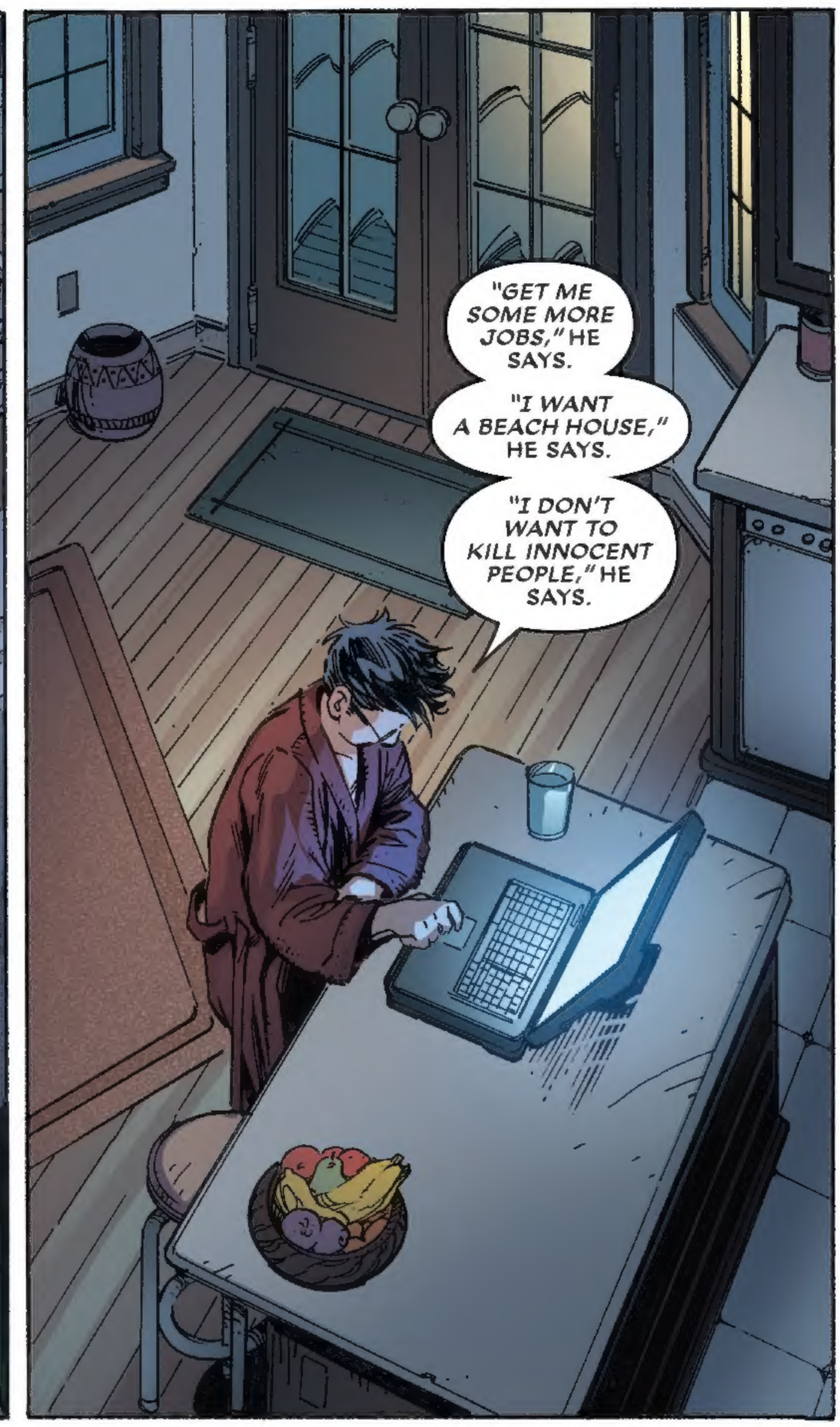
WHO THE #$%@ DOES DEADPOOL THINK HE'S DEALING WITH?
KIA
I AM THE LEADER OF THE ASSASSINS GUILD!
I WILL NOT BE THREATENED!
I WILL NOT CONSIDER HIS BARGAINS!
I WANT HIM DEAD!
I WANT HIM TO KNOW THAT IT WAS THE GUILD THAT ENDED HIM!
ABOVE ALL--I WANT HIM TO SUFFER!
AND...JUST BECAUSE HE'S PISSED ME OFF...
...ANYONE ASSOCIATED WITH WADE WILSON DIES, TOO...
...STARTING WITH HIS HANDLER AND THE TRAITOR, THRENODY.
STANDARD RATES APPLY.
BONUSES FOR HIS PAIN AND SUFFERING.
MAKE IT HAPPEN.

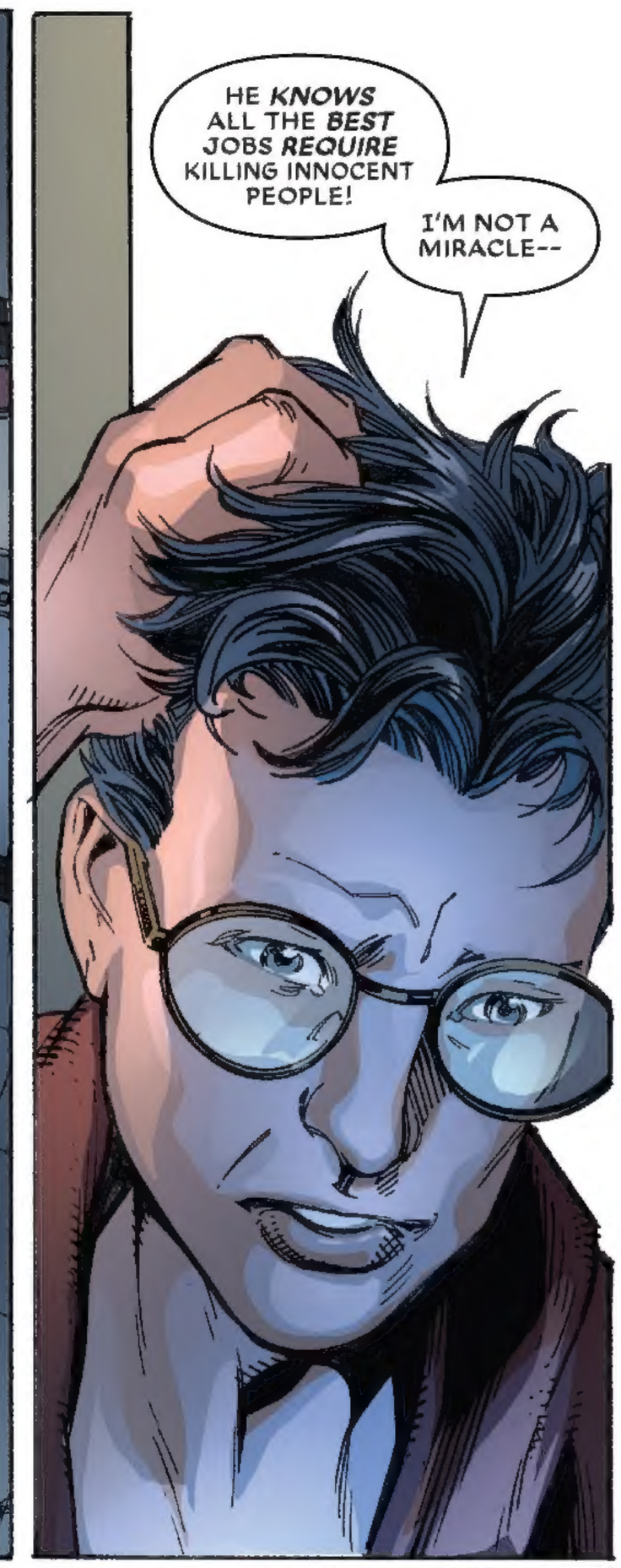
Mission: Retrieve sample of Super-Soldier Serum variant from Project Gladiator site.
Fee: $500,000.
HOLD STILL, BIG FELLA!
HOLD STILL!
THIS WILL ONLY STING FOR A SECOND!
OH, HELLO THERE!
I DIDN'T REALIZE I WAS BEING VOYEURED.
WELL, SINCE YOU'RE BEING PEEPING TOMS AND TOMASINAS, I'M GUESSING YOU ALREADY KNOW--I'M DEADPOOL.
A.K.A. THE MERC WITH A MOUTH.
A.K.A. SWEET DADDY DANGER.
Mission: Interrupt Mojo TV prime time broadcast.
Fee: $250,000.
TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES
YOU IDIOT!
DON'T YOU KNOW I COULD MAKE YOU A STAR?!

Mission: Acquire bust of Hippolyta from Amazonian temple.
Fee: $250,000. (Waived because--y'know--Amazons.)
THAT STATUE REALLY DOESN'T DO YOU JUSTICE.
IF YOU WANT TO BREAK ME OR WHATEVER, DO YOUR WORST.
BUT MAYBE WE CAN GRAB A CUP OF COFFEE OR TAKE A DIP IN A HOT TUB FULL OF OLIVE OIL ONCE THIS UNPLEASANTNESS IS FINISHED?
UH...
I DON'T EVEN KNOW THIS GUY!
YOU CAUGHT ME IN THE MIDDLE OF AN ACTION MONTAGE.
YOU SEE, I'VE DECIDED TO RETIRE FROM THE MERC GAME, BUT I WANT TO GO OUT ON TOP.
SO, I'VE BEEN TAKIN' AS MANY HIGH-DOLLAR GIGS AS I CAN.
RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES IN TIKI-TIKI LAND AIN'T CHEAP!
WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?
MY IMAGINARY GIRLFRIEND.
YOU WOULDN'T KNOW HER.
SHE'S FROM CANADA.
LAS VEGAS
NEVADA
Mission: Eliminate Hand cell in Las Vegas, Nevada.
Fee: $1,000,000.

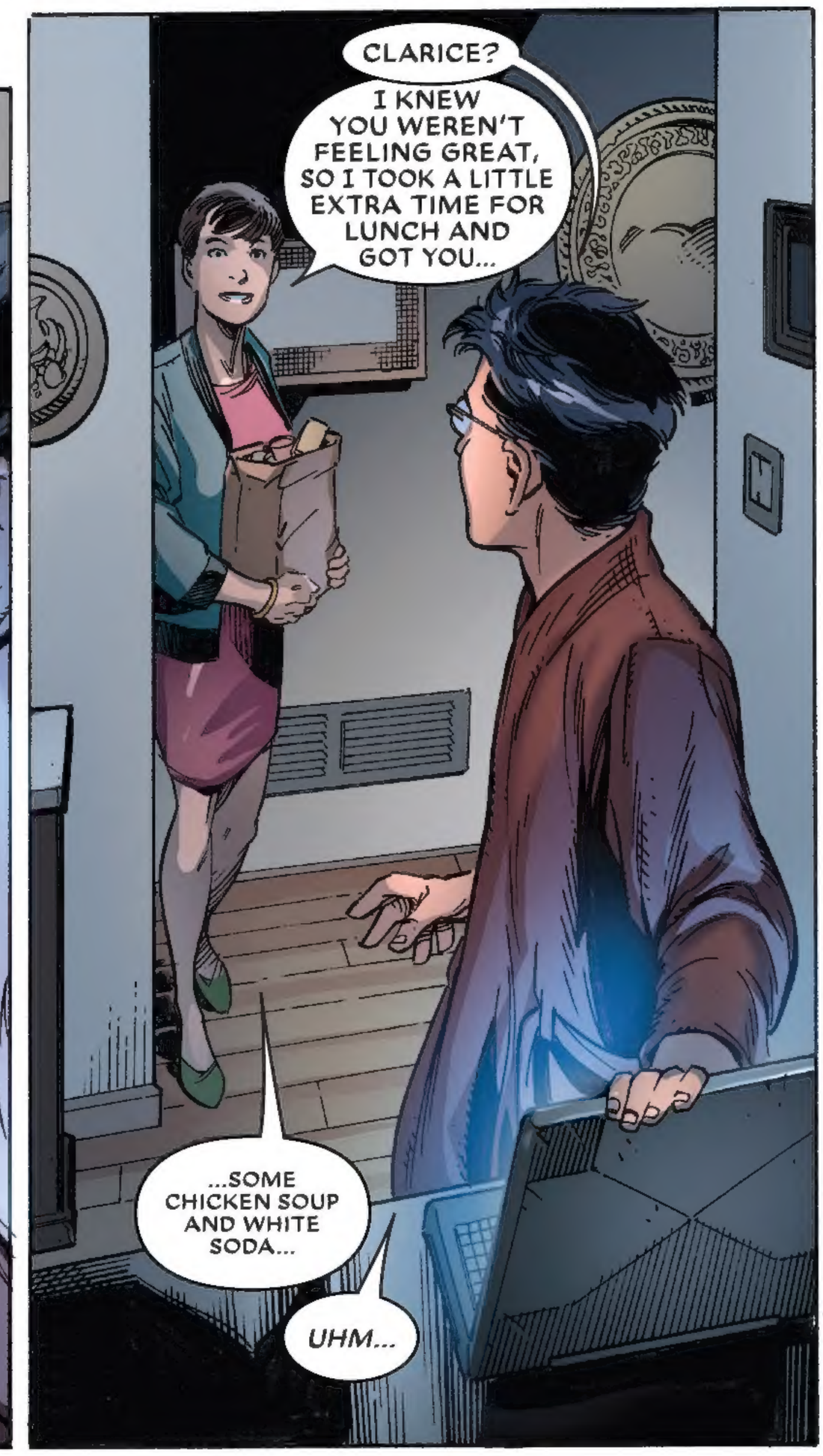

HEY!
I'LL BRING IT RIGHT BACK!
I PROMISE!
Mission: Acquire Venom symbiote.
Fee: $1,000,000.

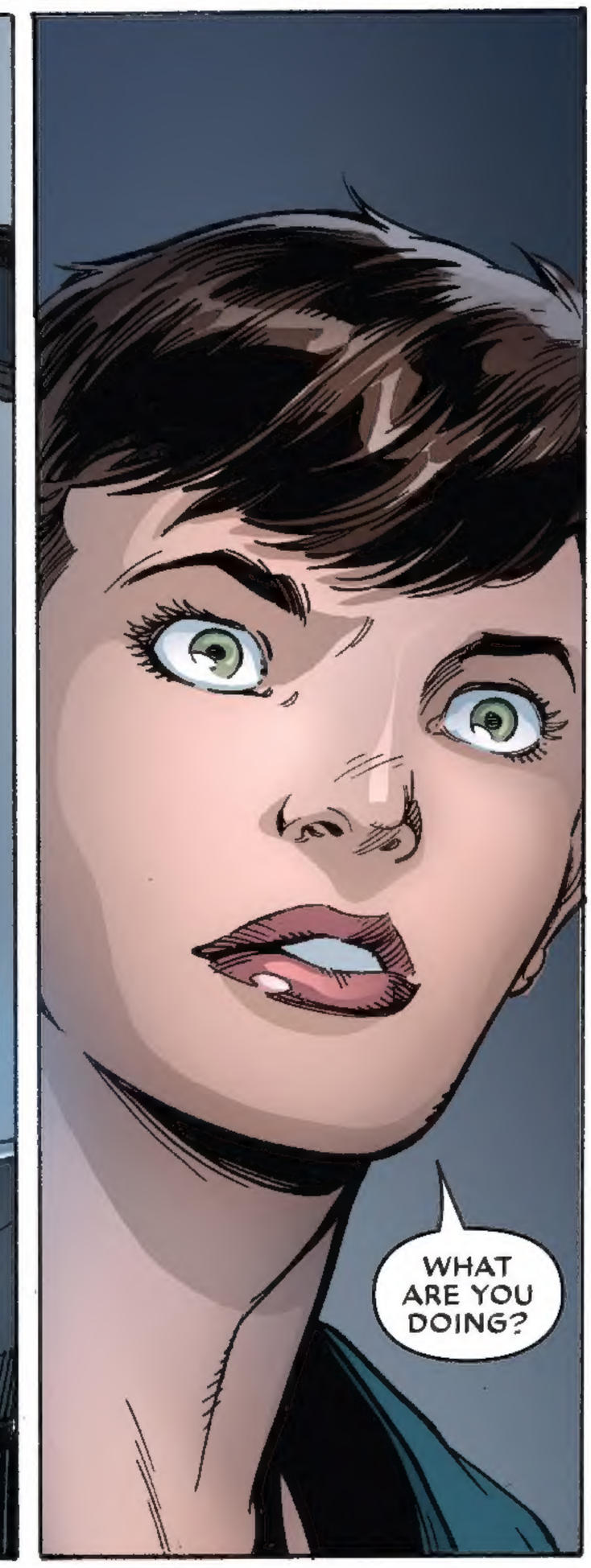
Mission: Destroy the *Darkhold*, an ancient grimoire of spells.
Fee: $1,000,000. (Mission failed due to mystical frogmorgrification.)
STOP HOPPING AROUND!
I'LL TAKE YOU TO DOCTOR STRANGE TO UNDO THIS!
THESE DAYS, I'M ACCOMPANIED ON THESE MISSIONS BY MY GIRL THRENODY.
THE RELATIONSHIP'S TOTALLY PLATONIC.
EXCEPT, I GUESS, THAT SHE FEEDS OFF ALL THE DEATH THAT SURROUNDS ME.
RIBBIT


"GET ME SOME MORE JOBS," HE SAYS.
"I WANT A BEACH HOUSE," HE SAYS.
"I DON'T WANT TO KILL INNOCENT PEOPLE," HE SAYS.


HE KNOWS ALL THE BEST JOBS REQUIRE KILLING INNOCENT PEOPLE!
I'M NOT A MIRACLE--

JACK?
JACK--I'M HOME!


CLARICE?
I KNEW YOU WEREN'T FEELING GREAT, SO I TOOK A LITTLE EXTRA TIME FOR LUNCH AND GOT YOU...
...SOME CHICKEN SOUP AND WHITE SODA...
UHM...


WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

Mission: Assassinate time-lost wizard hiding in Weirdworld.
Fee: $750,000.
OH, MIGHTY SORROW-BLADE!
DRINK DEEP OF BLOOD AND SPECTRAL FURY...
...BEFORE THRENODY GETS IT ALL.
SO...MUCH... DEATH...
...SO MANY SOULS...
...I NEVER IMAGINED...
AS YOU KNOW IF YOU READ LAST ISSUE, I'VE GOT A CODE.
BASICALLY, I ONLY KILL JACKASSES.
LUCKILY, THERE ARE PLENTY OF THEM TO GO AROUND.
Mission: Overthrow despotic space barony.
Fee: $500,000 (Earth equivalent).
HOW MANY OF THESE DESPOT TYPES DO YOU GUYS HAVE IN SPACE, ANYHOW?
BECAUSE WE COULD WORK OUT SOME SORT OF ANNUAL MAINTENANCE PLAN OR SOMETHING.
KILL THREE DESPOTS, GET THE FOURTH WHACKED FOR FREE.

Mission: Steal demon-entity from the Monsters of Evil.
Fee: $250,000.
Mission: Test viability of new Murderworld installation.
Fee: $600,000.
I ALSO DON'T LIKE TAKING JOBS FROM BAD PEOPLE.
WELLLLLL.
THAT'S MORE OF A LOOSE GUIDELINE THAN A RULE.
WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T LOOK BACK!
ARE THEY RIGHT BEHIND US?
I FEEL LIKE THEY'RE RIGHT BEHIND US!
WHAT'S THE SAFE WORD?
I FORGOT THE SAFE WORD!

BABY-- PLEASE!
IT'S...IT'S NOTHING.
WHAT THE HELL, JACK?
YOU DON'T SEEM TOO SICK TO ME!
THAT COMPUTER... HOW COME I'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE?

GET OUT OF MY WAY.
GET OUT OF THE WAY OR I SWEAR I'LL BEAT YOU TO DEATH WITH A CAN OF CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP.

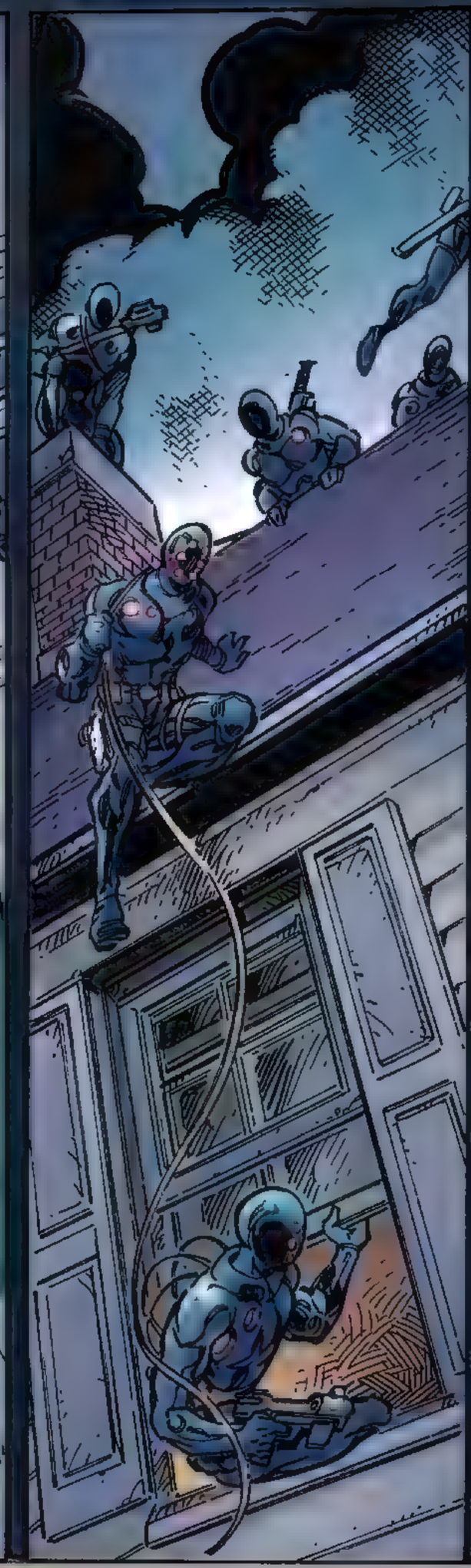
IT'S NOTHING!
I MEAN IT!
IT'S...
IT'S PORN, OKAY?!
THAT'S ALL!

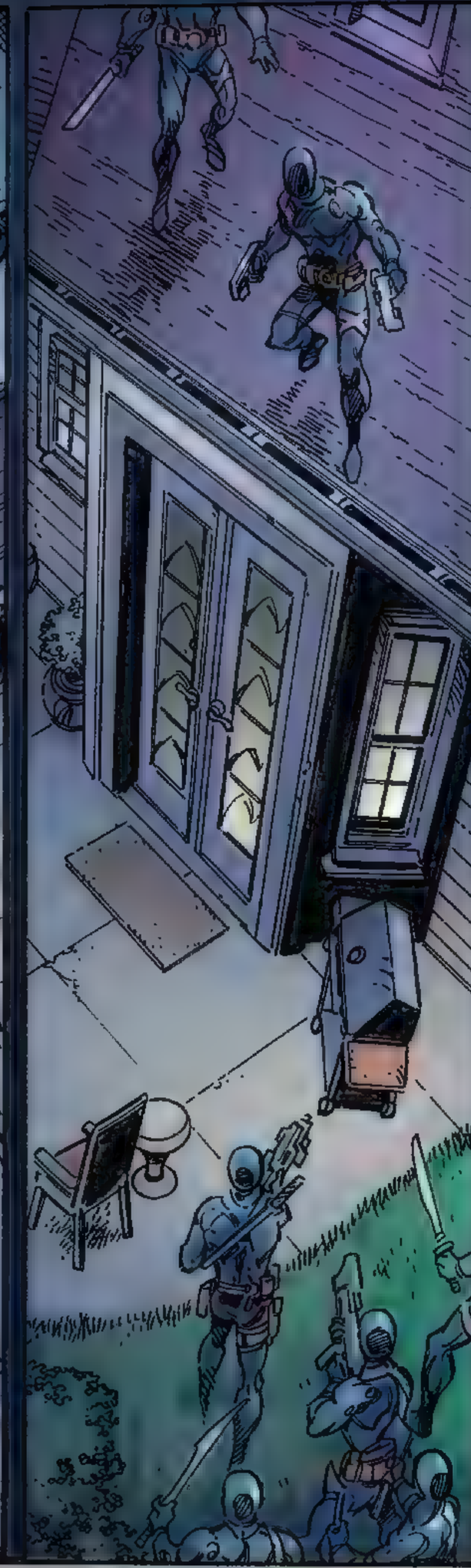
WHAT'S THE PASSWORD?
IF YOU DON'T WANT A DIVORCE, YOU'RE GOING TO SHOW ME WHAT'S ON THIS COMPUTER...
...WHO YOU'RE TALKING TO...
...AND WHAT'S SO IMPORTANT THAT YOU HAVE TO CALL IN SICK FROM WORK--
PASSWORD

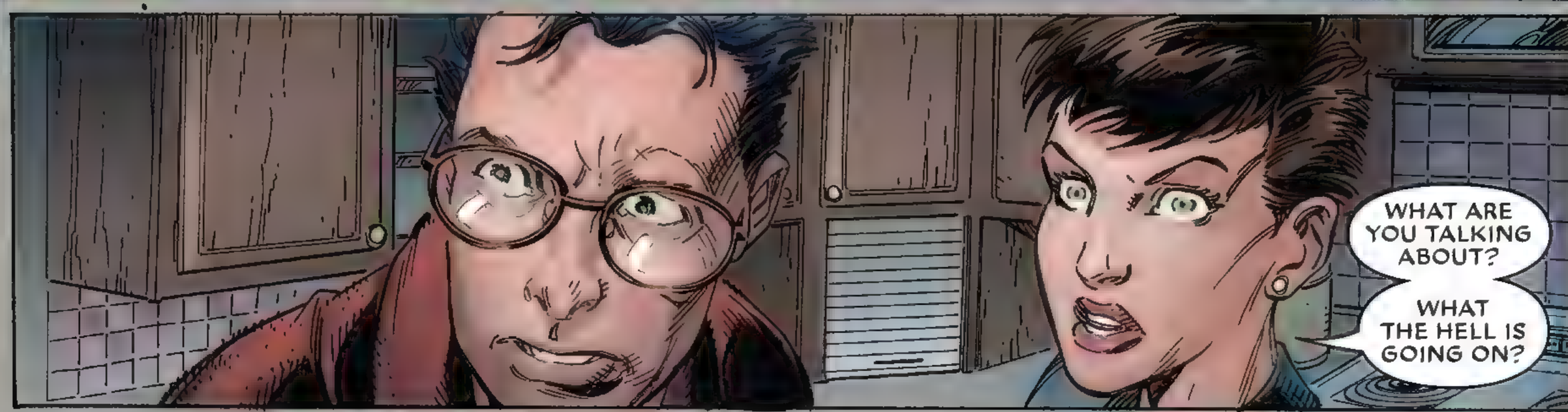
WAIT.
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT, WAIT, WAIT.
HOW'D YOU GET IN WITHOUT TRIPPING THE PROXIMITY SENSORS?

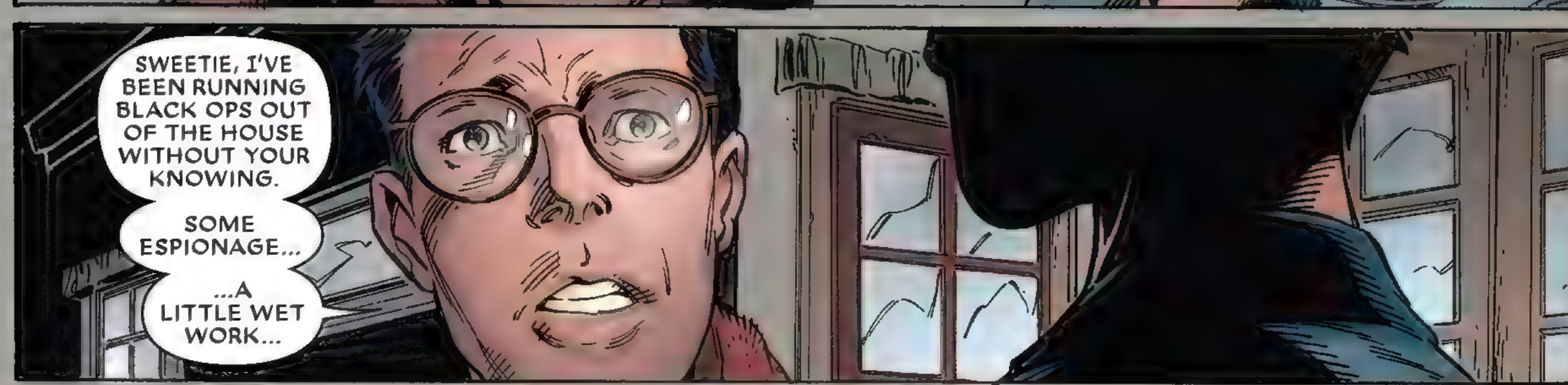
PROXIMITY... WHAT?
UNLESS...
...OH NO...

"SOMEONE BYPASSED THE SYSTEM!"






WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?


SWEETIE, I'VE BEEN RUNNING BLACK OPS OUT OF THE HOUSE WITHOUT YOUR KNOWING.
SOME ESPIONAGE...
...A LITTLE WET WORK...

"WET WORK"?
WHAT KIND OF TWISTED *SHADES OF GREY* ACTIVITY IS THAT?
IS THIS SOME SORT OF CRAIGSLIST THING?
CLARICE, I CAN EXPLAIN--

SMASH!

SHRAKKA-SHRAKKA-SHRAK-SHRAKKA

I'LL EXPLAIN LATER!

AAAAAH!

W-WHO ARE THEY?

WHAT...

WHAT DO THEY *WANT?*

THUNK

THEY'RE ASSASSINS.

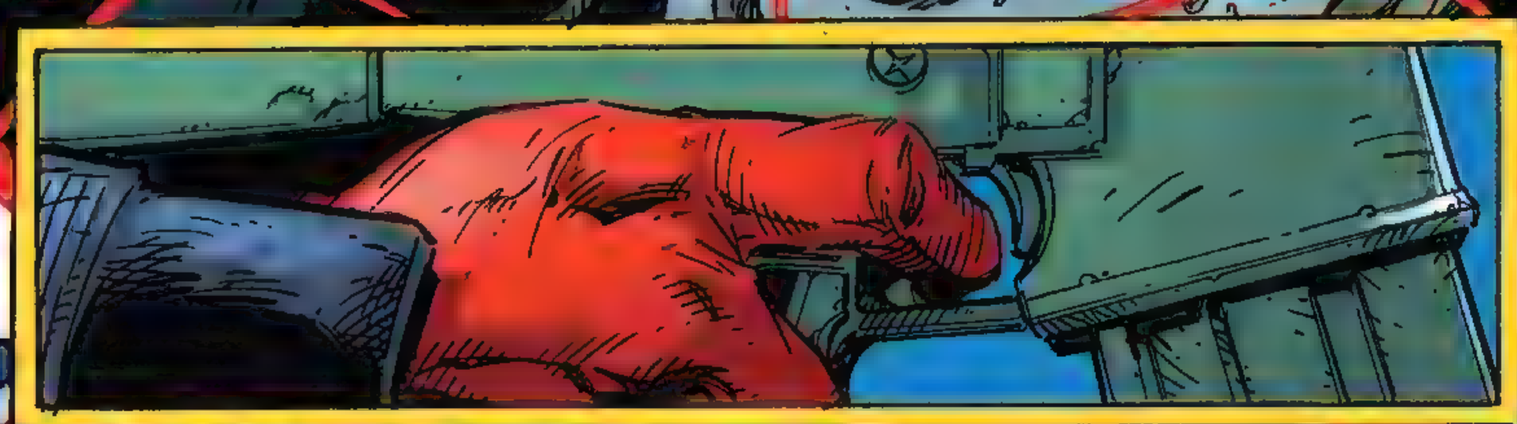
THEY'RE HERE TO KILL US.

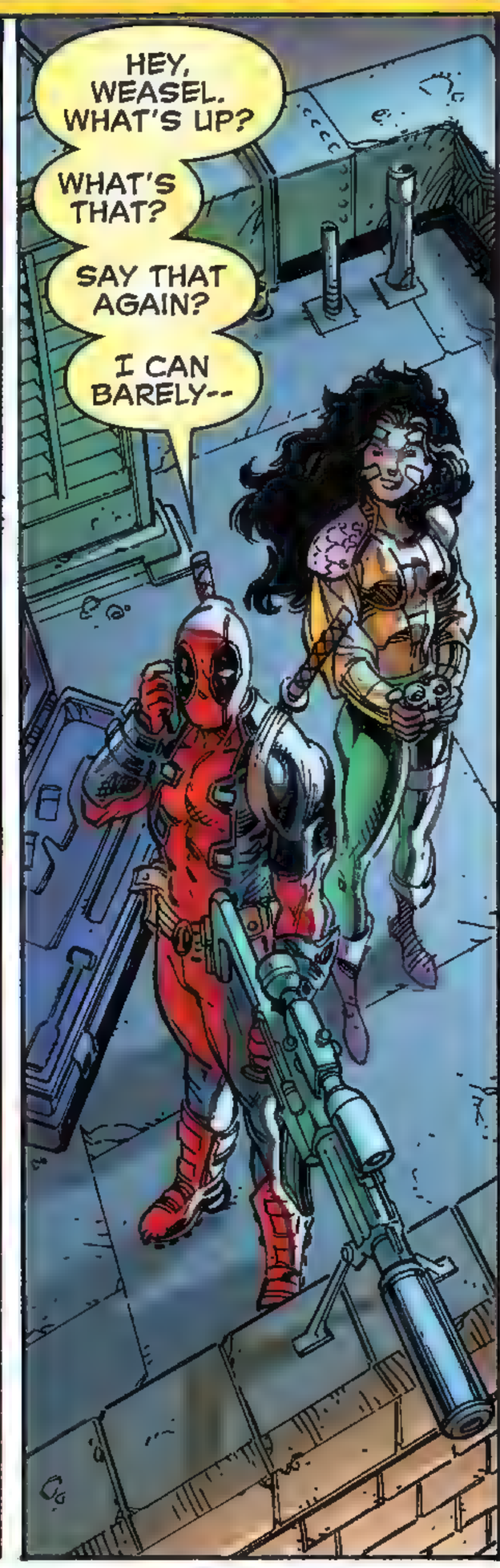
SO WE'RE GONNA *KILL THEM FIRST.*

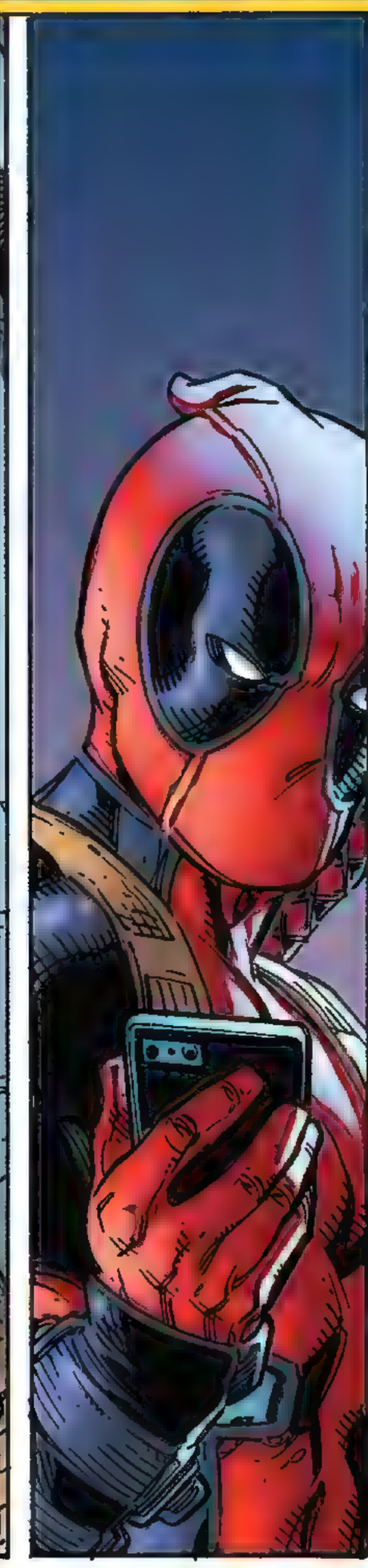
BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

Mission: Grand Theft Infernal Hellbike.
Fee: $400,000.
PLEASURE MEETING YOU!
I'LL BRING IT RIGHT BACK!
I PROMISE!
I'M TOTALLY NOT BRINGING IT BACK.
SO... YEAH...I DO BAD THINGS FOR INSANE AMOUNTS OF MONEY.
IT'S DIRTY WORK, BUT SOMEBODY'S GOTTA CASH THE CHECKS.
Mission: Assassination.
Fee: $500,000.
COULD YOU STOP TALKING TO YOURSELF AND CONCENTRATE?
NOT REALLY, NO.

Target:
The Rhino.







"WE'VE GOT PLACES TO BE."

STAY BEHIND ME, SWEETHEART.

I'LL...

I'LL FIND A WAY OUT OF THIS...I PROMISE.

JACK--

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

ACTUALLY, THAT'S NOT MY NAME.

WEASEL.

CALL ME WEASEL.

THUMP-THUMP-THUMP

WHOOOOOM

JACK O'LANTERN.

GONNA HOLLOW YOUR SKULLS OUT.

YEAAAAAH, BOI! JACK O'LANTERN'S HERE TO RAWK YOUR WORLD!

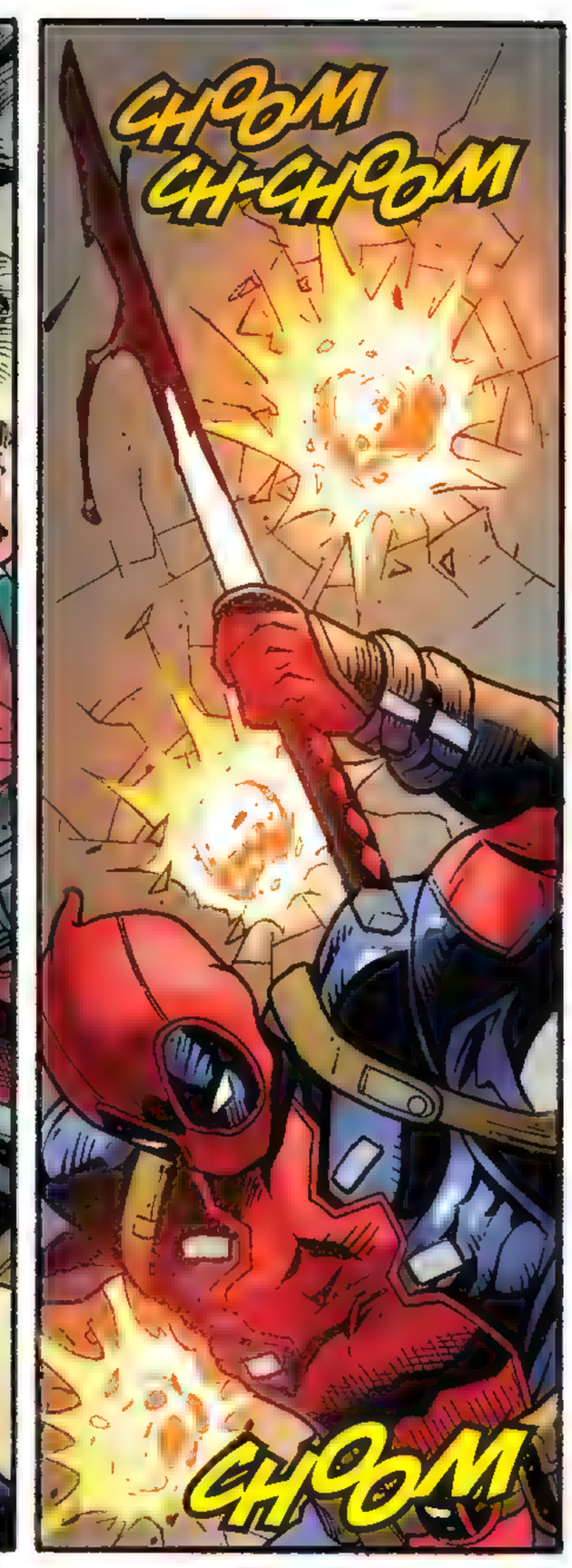
FILL 'EM WITH CANDY AND LEAVE THEM FOR DEADPOOL TO FIND.

YER GONNA DIE!

AREN'T YOU A LITTLE OLD FOR *TRICK-OR-TREATING?*

AND PLAYING WITH *DOLLS*, TOO?

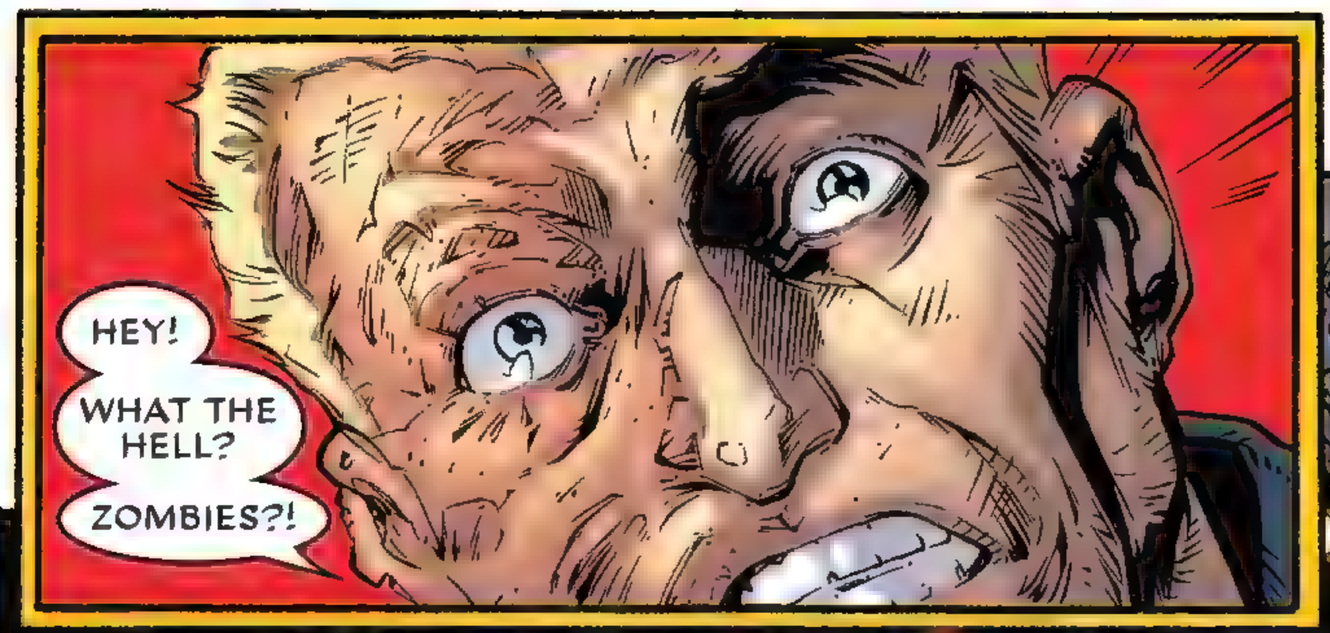
GUY--YOU'VE GOTTA SEE HOW *PERVY* YOU LOOK RIGHT NOW!



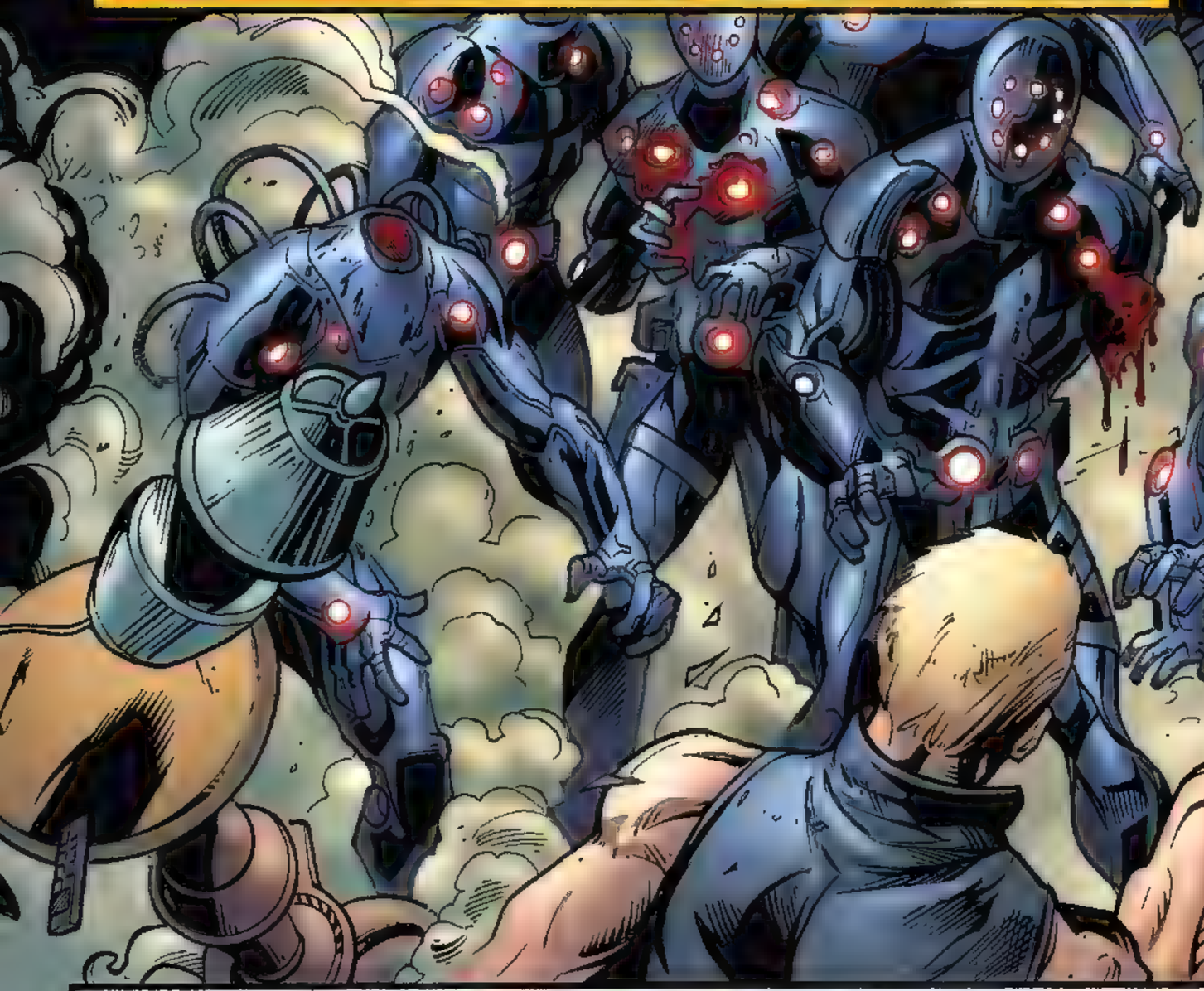
AW, CRAP! IT'S THE 'WACKER!

BUSHWACKER.

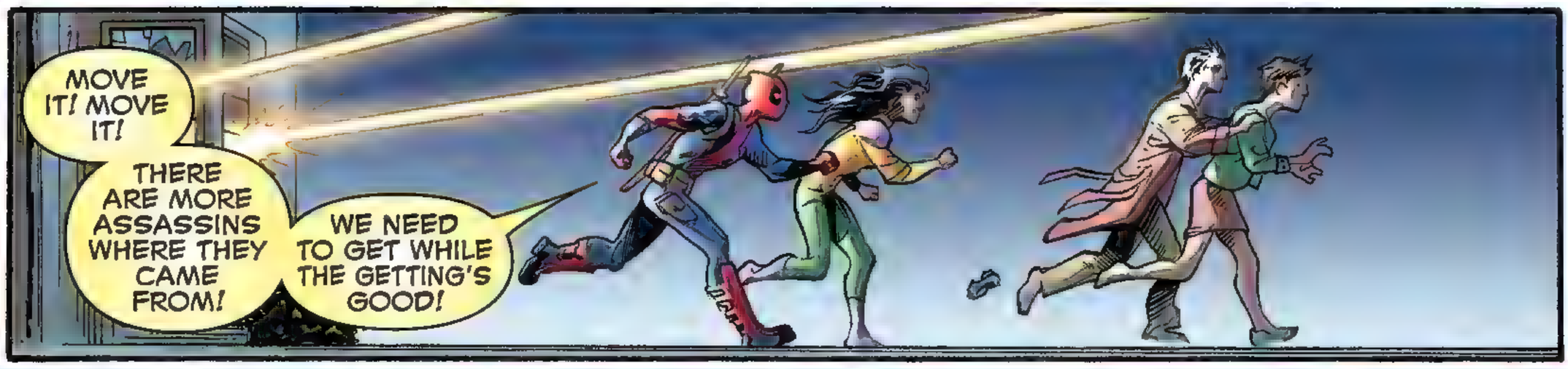
THAT'S NOT MUCH BETTER.

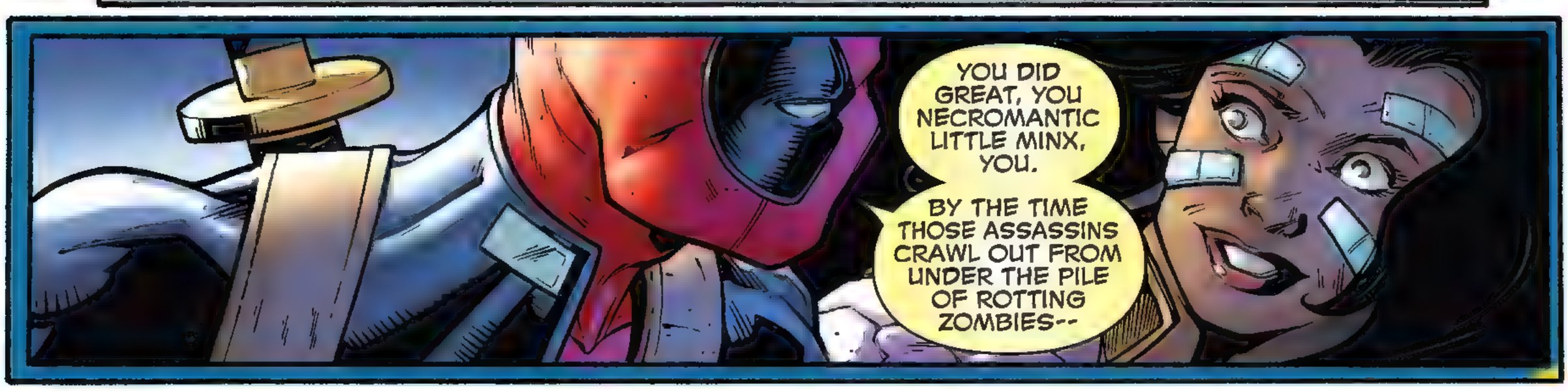

HEY!
WHAT THE HELL?
ZOMBIES?!

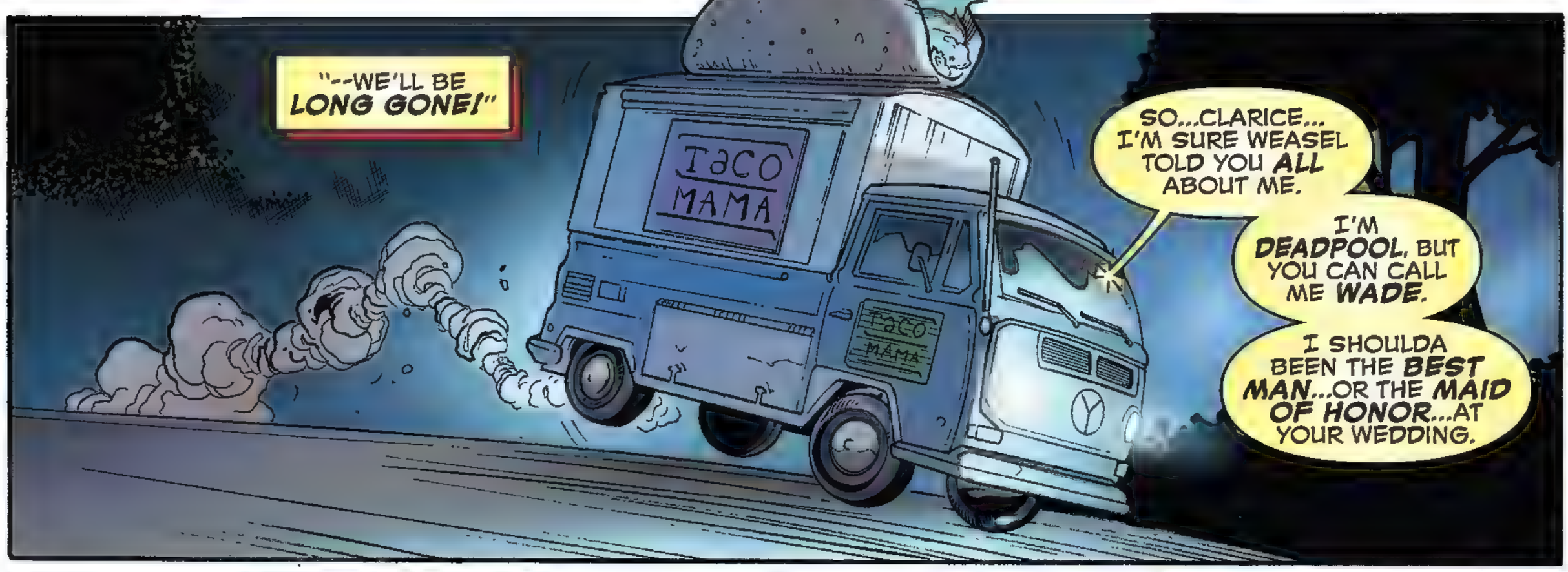
IF YOU DON'T CLEAR OUT OF HERE, THERE'LL BE ONE MORE IN THE MIX.

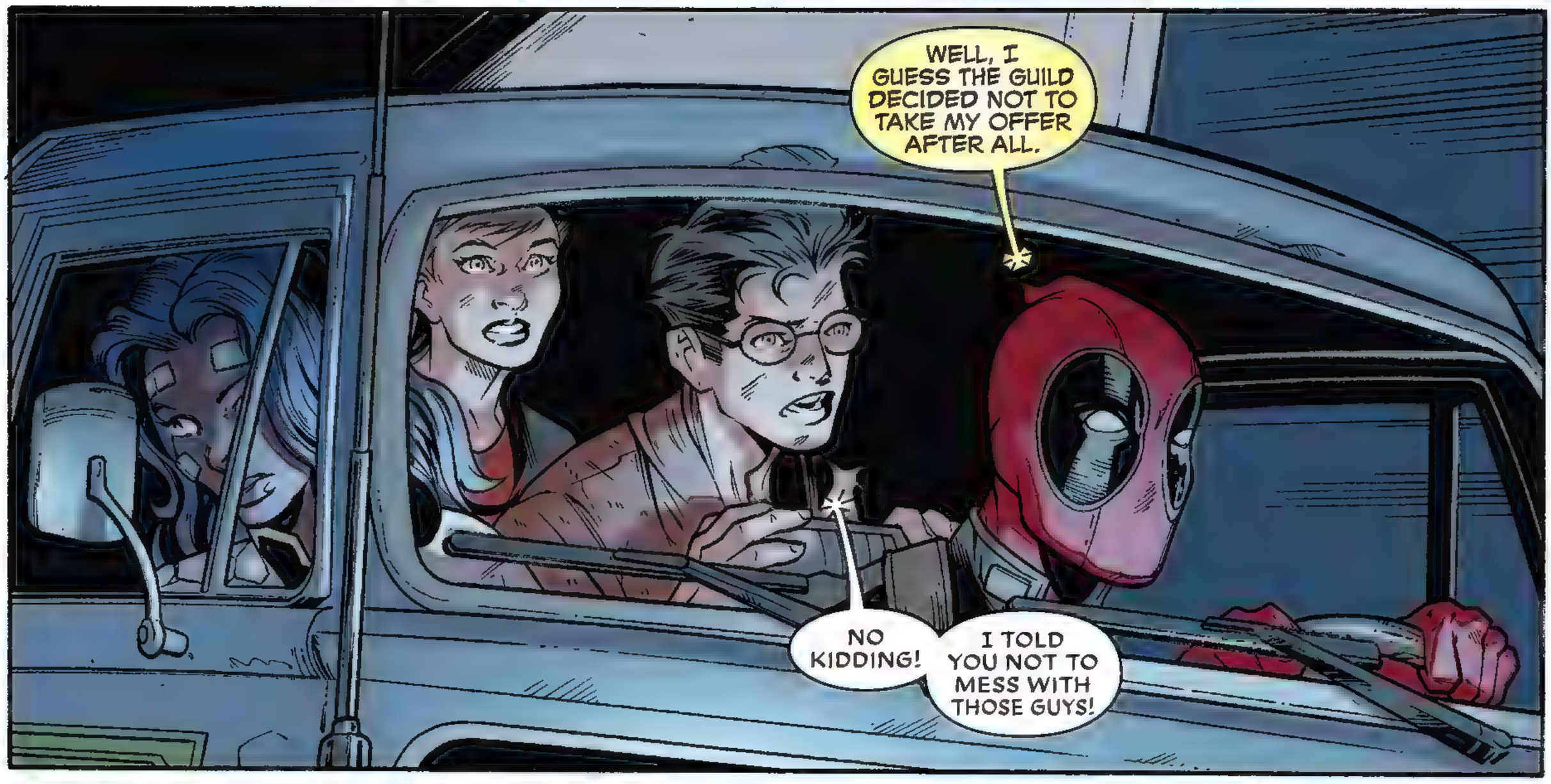


I AIN'T GONNA BE NO ZOMBIE!
CHOOM CHOOM CHOOM


MOVE IT! MOVE IT!
THERE ARE MORE ASSASSINS WHERE THEY CAME FROM!
WE NEED TO GET WHILE THE GETTING'S GOOD!


YOU DID GREAT, YOU NECROMANTIC LITTLE MINX, YOU.
BY THE TIME THOSE ASSASSINS CRAWL OUT FROM UNDER THE PILE OF ROTTING ZOMBIES--


"--WE'LL BE LONG GONE!"
TACO MAMA
SO...CLARICE... I'M SURE WEASEL TOLD YOU ALL ABOUT ME.
I'M DEADPOOL, BUT YOU CAN CALL ME WADE.
I SHOULDA BEEN THE BEST MAN...OR THE MAID OF HONOR...AT YOUR WEDDING.


WELL, I GUESS THE GUILD DECIDED NOT TO TAKE MY OFFER AFTER ALL.
NO KIDDING!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO MESS WITH THOSE GUYS!

UH-OH!
IT SOUNDS LIKE WEASEL'S GOT A LOT OF 'SPLAININ' TO DO!
I WARNED HIM!
I TOLD HIM NOT TO BE A LIVING PIECE OF GARBAGE.
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
WHO WERE THOSE PEOPLE?
WHERE IS...DEADPOOL TAKING US?
SHE'S ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS.
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING US?
WELL, THERE'S ONLY A FEW GOOD SPOTS FOR A MERC ON THE RUN TO LIE LOW.
LUCKY FOR US--

"--ONE OF THE BEST IS JUST AROUND THE BEND."

WHEREVER YOU'RE TAKING US, I HOPE IT HAS A RESTROOM!

THERE'S A TWO-LITER IN THE BACK.

I'M NOT PEEING IN A BOTTLE!

WHY NOT? I'VE ONLY USED, LIKE, ONE LITER'S WORTH OF SPACE.

BAR

Taco MAMA

EVERYBODY RELAX.

WE'RE HERE.

YOU'RE *NOT* SERIOUS.

WHAT IS IT?

WHERE ARE WE?

WELCOME TO SISTER MARGARET'S SCHOOL FOR WAYWARD GIRLS...

...AFFECTIONATELY CALLED--THE *HELLHOUSE.*

NEW YORK ANNEX.

YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?

YOU CAN'T *POSSIBLY* THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO BRING MY *WIFE* TO THE HELLHOUSE.

I CAN FEEL... SO MUCH *DEATH* CLINGING TO THIS PLACE.

AND IF I WERE GONNA BRING HER TO THE HELLHOUSE, I *CERTAINLY* WOULDN'T BRING HER TO THE *NEW YORK BRANCH!*

THIS PLACE IS THE *LOWEST OF THE LOW!*

YOU'RE GONNA LOVE IT, THREN.

BESIDES, YOU AND MRS. WEASEL ARE *GIRLS.*

AND WE'RE ALL WAY, WAY *WAYWARD.*

SISTER MAR
SCHOOL FOR
WAYWARD GIRL

THIS IS WHERE WE BELONG.
WILSON.
YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE SHOWING YOUR FACE HERE, ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING HOW YOU'VE BEEN SNAPPING UP EVERY JOB THAT MATTERS.
YOU DON'T STEAL A DOG'S FOOD FROM HIS BOWL, THEN TRY TO CRAWL INTO HIS KENNEL FOR A SNUGGLE.
FIRST OF ALL, THAT WAS SOME REALLY COLORFUL LANGUAGE, GUTTER.
YOU GOT YOUR POINT ACROSS AND HINTED AT PUPPIES. CUTE.
SECOND OF ALL, I'VE COME HERE TO MAKE AMENDS AND OFFER ALL OF YOU FOLKS A JOB.
WHAT D'YA SAY?
WHO WANTS TO HELP ME TAKE DOWN THE ASSASSINS GUILD?
$10,00
TO BE CONTINUED...

DEV'S DIGEST

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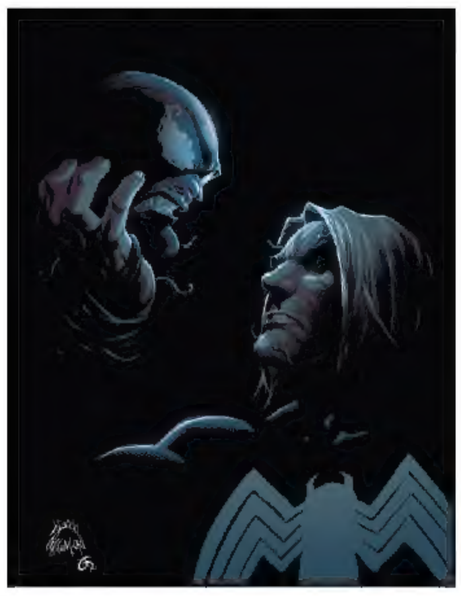
DAN BUCKLEY president
ALAN FINE executive producer

Send letters our way at SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM and mark 'em OKAY TO PRINT!

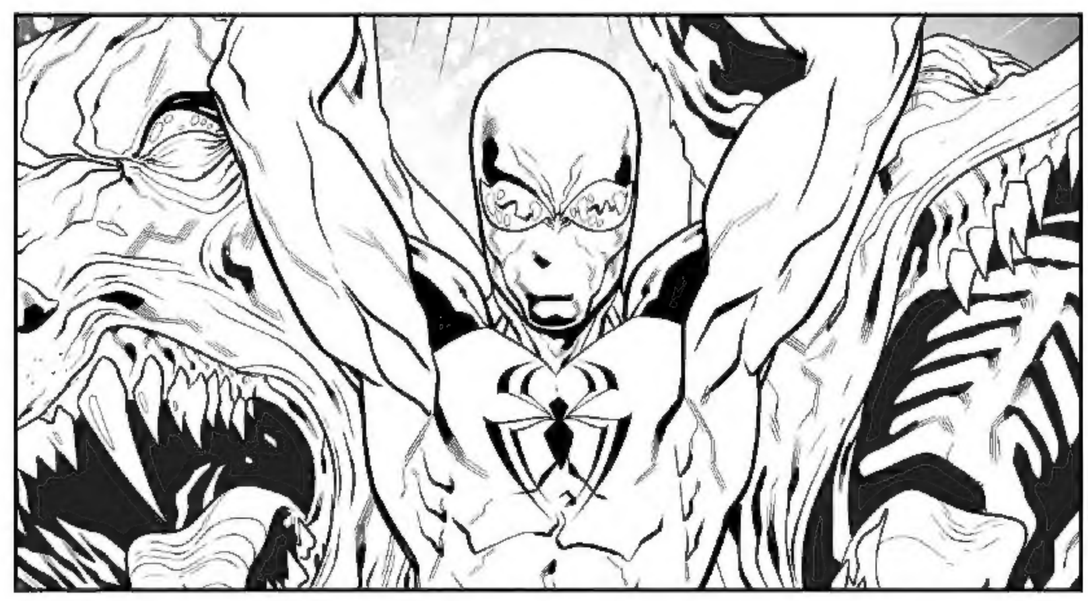
Hello in here, out there, around the world and aboard all the ships at sea! Editor Devin Lewis reporting to you live and in print from Marvel Comics HQ here in the heart of New York!

Welcome to DEV'S DIGEST, a chance for us here at the House of Ideas to give you readers out there in Mighty Marveldom a sneak peek at some of the coolest stuff we've got in the works for the coming months and give you the inside scoop on where your favorite Marvel mags and stories are headed.

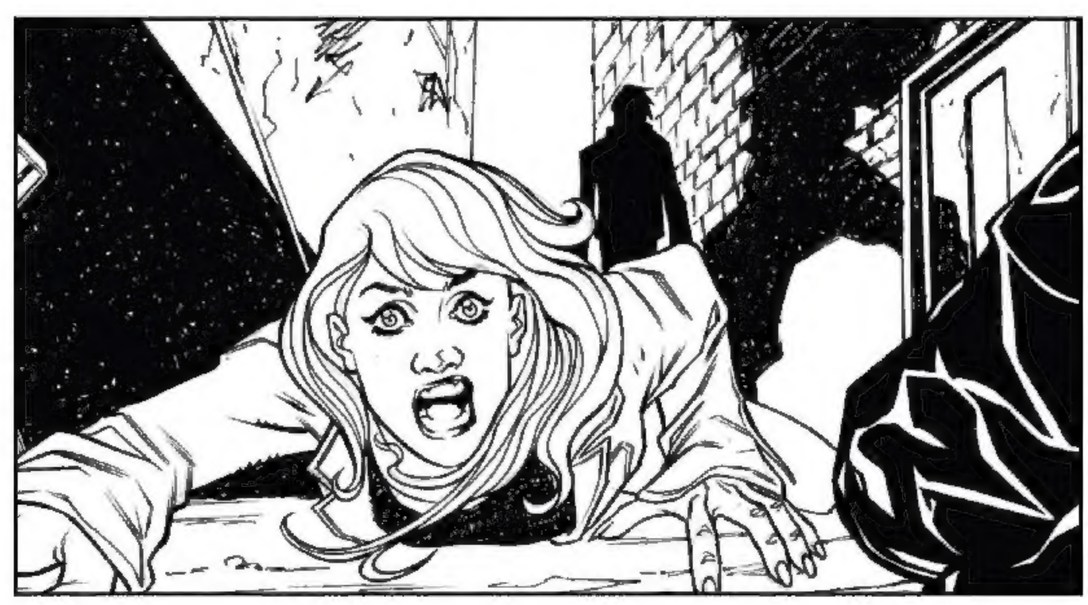


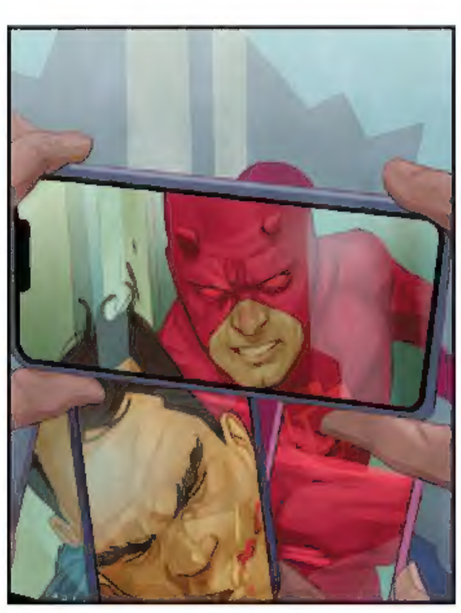
ITEM: Out this week is VENOM #4 from Donny Cates and Ryan Stegman! Come join Eddie as everything we know about the symbiote is turned on its head as the secrets of the symbiote's origins are revealed! It's on sale RIGHT NOW! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?! GO GET IT!

ITEM: And be sure to grab BEN REILLY: THE SCARLET SPIDER #22 from Peter David and Will Sliney! The mystery of the Diogenes Initiative continues to unfold as Kaine chases a lead into a secret hideout guarded by impossible creatures. Meanwhile, Ben races the clock as the young Abigail Mercury's life hangs in the balance! You won't want to miss a single, pulse-pounding page! On sale 8/01!



ITEM: If you haven't been reading CLOAK AND DAGGER by Dennis Hopeless and David Messina you've been missing out! A mysterious figure from Tandy and Tyrone's past has returned to wreak havoc on their lives. Will they be able to come together or will The Grey pick them off one by one? Find out RIGHT NOW! A digital-first comic, issues #1-3 are available on the Marvel Comics app!





ITEM: DAREDEVIL #606 — This issue marks the return of Phil Noto and his artistic talents to Charles Soule's Man Without Fear's adventures! Thwarting a simple bank robbery might just have unforeseen consequences for Daredevil as he goes up against Hammerhead. Having stood tall against The Hand and the Kingpin, will this be the thing to knock Daredevil off his feet??? Find out on 8/08!

That's it for this one, True Believers, but be sure to watch this space! You never know what might show up in these majestic missives--concept art from future issues? First looks at killer upcoming variants? Who knows?! You'll just have to wait and see!

So keep reading, and if you've got any questions about any of this biz, send 'em our way at SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM and mark 'em "OKAY TO PRINT"!

Over and out!
Devin.

@edevinlewis

NEXT

DEADPOOL Assassin

#5

ZONE